

House Resolution 1168

By: Representatives Ralston of the 7th, Jones of the 46th, and Hembree of the 67th

A RESOLUTION

1 Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that the Rules of the House
3 of Representatives are amended as follows:

SECTION 1.

5 Rules 7.1, 7.3, 7.4, and 7.7 are amended as follows:

6 "7.1 No person shall be entitled to enter upon the floor of the House during the period
7 beginning thirty (30) minutes before the House convenes and ending upon adjournment
8 except (1) members and officers thereof, (2) members and officers of the Senate, (3) the
9 Governor of the state, (4) staff members of the Office of Legislative Counsel, (5) staff
10 members of the House Budget Office, (6) subject to Rule 7.3 members of the news media
11 and their photographers, all of whom must bear proper credentials and must comply with
12 this rule, and ~~(6)~~ (7) such others to whom the Speaker has issued a pass and those the
13 House may allow upon recommendation of the Committee on Rules."

14 ~~"7.3 During the period beginning thirty (30) minutes before the House convenes and~~
15 ~~ending upon adjournment, members of the news media are not authorized to be on the floor~~
16 ~~of the House. During this period members of the news media with proper credentials are~~
17 ~~only authorized to be in the South anteroom and the Media Gallery of the House of~~
18 ~~Representatives. During this period, reporters for print media and broadcast media may~~
19 ~~request that a member leave the floor for an interview in the South anteroom or in one of~~
20 ~~the halls adjacent to the House chamber. A request by a member of the media for a~~
21 ~~member to leave the floor for an interview shall be made through a House Page assigned~~
22 ~~to the Media Gallery for that purpose. After devotion, only those members of the news~~
23 ~~media with proper credentials shall enter upon the floor of the House of Representatives.~~
24 ~~No interview shall be conducted on the floor of the House of Representatives while the~~
25 ~~House is in session. Reporters for print media and radio stations and television reporters~~
26 ~~when no cameraperson is present shall have access to the floor of the House of~~

Representatives only to request that a member leave the floor for an interview. Following the request, reporters must leave the floor immediately.

7.4 After devotion, still ~~Still~~ photographers and television camerapersons shall have access to the floor of the House of Representatives while the House is in session, unless, in the discretion of the presiding officer, the number of still photographers or television camerapersons is excessive or the number of still photographers or television camerapersons is creating a disturbance or disruption, at which time they may be removed by the presiding officer."

~~"7.7 The Speaker may refuse to issue or revoke cards issued to nonmembers of the House and Senate. The right is reserved by the Speaker to refuse the issuance of or to revoke cards requested or issued to nonmembers of the House and Senate. It is the intention of these rules to allow access by the media to the members of the House of Representatives while minimizing distractions and disruption of the House while in session. The Speaker may prescribe such other limitations as are deemed appropriate under the circumstances."~~

SECTION 2.

Rules 11.1 through 11.3 are amended as follows:

~~"11.1 Members of all committees provided for in these rules and the Hawks shall be appointed by the Speaker or the Committee on Assignments. In the Speaker's discretion, the Speaker may create one or more subcommittees within any standing committee and constitute the membership thereof.~~

~~11.2 Every member of the House shall be appointed to, and serve, on at least two standing committees of the House.~~

~~11.3 The Speaker, the Speaker pro-Tempore, the Majority Leader, and the Majority Whip and the Hawks shall be ex officio members of all standing committees and subcommittees of the House and shall have a vote on all committees and subcommittees, except that the Speaker shall have no vote as an ex officio member except on the Committee on Rules."~~

SECTION 3.

Rules 11.8 and 11.9 are amended as follows:

~~"11.8 The Speaker, or the Committee on Assignments, may appoint one or more members to the position of Hawk. The Speaker may designate one of the Hawks as the Senior Hawk. The Hawks shall serve as ex officio members of all standing committees and subcommittees of the House and shall have a vote on all committees and subcommittees.~~

~~11.9~~ 11.8. The Speaker, or the Committee on Assignments, may appoint one or more vice-chairmen of the Committee on Appropriations. Each vice chairman appointed shall

be designated to preside over one of the following subcommittees of the Committee on Appropriations:

- (1) Education.
- (2) Higher Education.
- (3) Health.
- (4) Human Resources.
- (5) Public Safety.
- (6) Economic Development.
- (7) Special Appropriations Projects Oversight
- (8) General."

SECTION 4.

Rule 12.6 is amended as follows:

"12.6 Notwithstanding any appointment by the Committee on Assignments, or the Speaker's failure to veto any appointment pursuant to Rule 12.5, the Speaker may, at any time, with or without cause and without explanation, remove any member appointed as a chairman, vice chairman or secretary of any standing or special committee or subcommittee in the House; ~~any Hawk~~ or any member appointed to the Committee on Rules."

SECTION 5.

Rule 33.2 is amended as follows:

"33.2 In arranging and fixing the calendar for each day's business, the Committee on Rules is authorized to place on each measure to come before the House any of the following special rules:

(a) Open Rule - Germane amendments may be offered in accordance with the provisions of these Rules.

(b) Modified Open Rule - Germane amendments may be offered subject only to an overall time limit on the amendment process, and a requirement that the amendments be pre-printed and placed upon the desk one hour prior to debate.

(c) Modified Structured Rule - Germane amendments, ~~designated by the Committee on Rules,~~ may be offered after being approved by the Committee on Rules. This rule may preclude amendments to a particular portion of the bill, although other parts of the bill may be open to amendment.

(d) Structured Rule - No amendments may be offered, ~~provided, however, that if.~~ There is a strong presumption against Structured Rules. If any measure passed by the House pursuant to a Structured Rule is amended in the Senate it shall be considered disagreed to when it returns from the Senate, except that the author of the House measure, with the

96 concurrence of the Speaker, may move to accept the House measure as amended by the
97 Senate, or as otherwise allowed in Rules 118 and 119."

98 **SECTION 6.**

99 Rule 33.7 is amended as follows:

100 "33.7 The Committee on Rules may also recommit any measure back to the committee
101 from whence it came, or on its own motion, amend the same, only with minor and technical
102 amendments as described in Rule 33.4."

103 **SECTION 7.**

104 Rule 40.1 is amended as follows:

105 "40.1 Morning Orders shall be in order immediately prior to the reading of bills and
106 resolutions for the third time. ~~There~~ During the first 20 days of the session shall be a ~~15~~ 20
107 minute period during which members wishing to engage in a Morning Order may speak,
108 and thereafter there shall be a 10 minute period during which members wishing to engage
109 in a Morning Order may speak; provided, however, that no member may speak for more
110 than 5 minutes. All requests to speak must be received by the Messenger, or such other
111 person as the Speaker may designate, one hour prior to the convening of each day's
112 business. The Speaker shall allocate the time members can speak up to the ~~fifteen-minute~~
113 overall time limit."